United Nations A/RES/70/299

General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 August 2016

Seventieth session
Agenda item 15 and 116

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 29 July 2016

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.60)*]

70/299. Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 66/288 of 27 July 2012, 67/290 of 9 July 2013 and 68/1 of 20 September 2013,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and reaffirming our unwavering commitment to achieving this Agenda and utilizing it to the full to transform our world for the better by 2030,

Reaffirming also that in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Member States committed to engaging in systematic follow-up and review of the implementation of the Agenda in accordance with agreed guiding principles, including those set out in paragraph 74 of resolution 70/1, and asserted that the high-level political forum on sustainable development would have a central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes of the 2030 Agenda at the global level, working coherently with the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other relevant organs and forums, in accordance with existing mandates,

Recalling its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda),

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on critical milestones towards coherent, efficient and inclusive follow-up and review at the global level;[1]

2. *Decides* that, for the purposes of the thematic reviews of progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[2] at the high-level political forum on sustainable development, the sequence of themes for each four-year cycle of the forum shall reflect the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals and the three dimensions of sustainable

[1] A/70/684.

[2] Resolution 70/1.

Please recycle

development, including cross-cutting issues as well as new and emerging issues, and will serve as the framework for reviewing all 17 Goals;

3. *Also decides*, therefore, that, for the remainder of the current cycle of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council,[1] the themes shall be:

(*a*) For 2017: Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world;

(*b*) For 2018: Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies;

(*c*) For 2019: Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality;

4. *Further decides* that the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, shall discuss a set of Goals and their interlinkages, including, if appropriate, with other Goals, at each session representing the three dimensions of sustainable development, with a view to facilitating an in-depth review of progress made on all Goals over the course of a four-year cycle, with means of implementation, including with respect to Goal 17, reviewed annually;

5. *Decides* that, for the remainder of the current cycle of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, the sets of Sustainable Development Goals to be reviewed in depth shall be:

(*a*) In 2017: Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14;

(*b*) In 2018: Goals 6, 7, 11, 12 and 15;

(*c*) In 2019: Goals 4, 8, 10, 13 and 16;

6. *Also decides* that the Economic and Social Council shall ensure the alignment of its annual main themes and the corresponding annual themes of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Council, to foster coherence;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the preparations for the voluntary national reviews for the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council in 2016, urges that experience gained from this and future sessions be taken into consideration in the development of new and flexible arrangements for the preparation of subsequent sessions, as appropriate, bearing in mind that their aim is to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, and encourages Member States to involve stakeholders in the national voluntary reviews in accordance with paragraphs 78 and 79 of resolution 70/1;

8. *Takes note* of the support provided to Member States preparing for voluntary national reviews, and requests the President of the Economic and Social Council to encourage voluntary national reviews by all countries, including countries in special situations;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update, as appropriate and taking into account feedback from countries participating in the high-level political forum, the voluntary common reporting guidelines as provided for in the annex to the report of

[1] Noting that the Economic and Social Council has decided that the theme for the high-level political forum in 2016 is "Ensuring that no one is left behind".

the Secretary-General, and to make them available to Member States as a suggested tool in the preparations for voluntary national reviews;

10. *Encourages* Member States to identify the most suitable regional or subregional forums and formats, where appropriate, as a further means of contributing to the follow-up and review at the high-level political forum, recognizing the need to avoid duplication, and welcomes the steps taken in this regard;

11. *Reaffirms* paragraph 11 of resolution 67/290, while also recognizing the challenges facing countries in conflict and post-conflict situations and supporting the principle of leaving no one behind, and that the meetings of the high-level political forum will provide for effective linkages with the follow-up and review arrangements of all relevant United Nations conferences and processes, including on least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries;

12. *Encourages*, in the organization of the meetings of the high-level political forum, consideration of the use of web-based interfaces as an additional means of supporting effective, broad and balanced participation by region and by type of organization in accordance with the modalities on the participation of stakeholders in resolution 67/290, and reiterates the call to major groups and stakeholders to report on their contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

13. *Reaffirms* that the meetings of the high-level political forum will be informed by an annual progress report on the Sustainable Development Goals and the quadrennial *Global Sustainable Development Report*, as well as all other relevant inputs;

14. *Underscores* that all inputs to the high-level political forum shall be made available and easily accessible utilizing existing web-based platforms;

15. *Encourages* coherence of the General Assembly and its Main Committees, the Economic and Social Council, the specialized agencies and the functional commissions of the Council, and other intergovernmental bodies and forums with the work of the high-level political forum towards the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, urges that the quadrennial comprehensive policy review take into account the 2030 Agenda, and in this regard takes note of the ongoing work of the Assembly and its Main Committees, the Council and its functional and regional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies and forums on the review of their working methods and agendas in order to ensure that they address the implementation of the 2030 Agenda within their respective areas of expertise and mandates, while avoiding duplication;

16. *Reaffirms* paragraph 23 of resolution 67/290, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and internal coordination of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, considering the need to avoid overlap in its work and ensuring that the work of the Department is organized in an integrated, cohesive, coordinated and collaborative manner, in order that the Department as a whole can provide support to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level, including to the work of the Economic and Social Council and the organization of the segments of its session and the high-level political forum;

17. *Decides* to convene the biennial Development Cooperation Forum prior to the high-level political forum, and invites the Economic and Social Council to consider timing its engagement with various intergovernmental bodies in order to support their contribution to the high-level political forum;

18. *Requests* the President of the Economic and Social Council to jointly convene the high-level segment of the Council session and the three ministerial days of the high-level political forum, meeting under the auspices of the Council, in order to avoid duplication, enhance efficiency and strengthen complementarity and synergy;

19. *Decides* that the meetings of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the General Assembly and those under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council shall be closely coordinated to ensure coherence and provide for mutually reinforcing linkages, especially when it is deemed appropriate to convene the forum under the auspices of the Council in the same year that it is convened under the auspices of the Assembly in order to provide necessary space for the conduct of voluntary national reviews and thematic reviews, and in this connection also decides that the forum shall have only one negotiated political declaration, covering the different and complementary functions of both sessions of the forum when the forum is convened twice in the same year;

20. *Reaffirms* its decision, as provided in resolution 67/290, that the outcome of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council shall result in a negotiated ministerial declaration for inclusion in the report of the Council to the General Assembly, except as otherwise provided, and invites the President of the Council, in consultation with the Bureau of the Council, to prepare a factual summary to reflect the discussions of the meeting;

21. *Decides* to review progress in implementing the present resolution and resolution 67/290 on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum at its seventy-fourth session, in order to benefit from lessons learned in the first cycle of the forum as well as from other processes under the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council related to the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

114th plenary meeting
29 July 2016